



Report of the VP External to Council

*He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire.
However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results.*
-Winston Churchill

Government affairs

1. TaCEQ

a) Referendum at AFELC-UQAM

Didn't receive quorum.

b) Met on skype in the form of our board of directors on Monday night. We decided, against my best efforts to convince otherwise, that we will be going ahead with the Annual GA and the Table des assos on weekend of December 5th and 6th in Sherbrooke. This is unfortunate because I won't be able to bring reporters or other interested students. If anyone wants to be involved, free trip to Sherbrooke, let me know.

c) TaCEQ website

Working on it. Deadline pushed back now to December 5th and 6th

2. Phone conversation with Madeleine Rheume, Monday November 23rd

a) Governance Bills are still going forward. CADEUL gave a false alarm when they saw that the bills were being pushed until after Christmas. In fact the government just wants more time to push them through the parliamentary process.

b) She said the Ministry will come up with document of new criteria of recognition by mid-February. We will be holding her to that

3. Demonstration: the new Canada Student Grants Program

a) Wednesday December 2nd 2009, starting at Cegep du Vieux-Montreal 225 Ontario East

b) Demo organized by the ASSE to address the weakness in the CDGP, what the Federal Conservatives replacing the Millennium Scholarship with, to address student debt

c) Grant money is far below poverty level

Community Affairs

4. Community Action and Relations Endeavor

a) 1st draft of the proposal received support from the Dean of Students Jane Everett (Friday Nov 13th) and the MPCC (Monday Nov 16th).

b) Preparing the distribution of the Notice of Projects to the various stakeholders.



- c) On Friday I met with Helene and we planned consultations with community members/orgs and with the Admin. I want to have an open forum to discuss CARE in community despite Helene telling me it might just be a free for all. I also would like to meet with McGill administrators separately, instead of having one big meeting with Mendelson present. How do you suggest we interview administrators?
- d) Will meet with Helene Brisson today to fine-tune the language of the CARE plan

5. SSMU Milton-Parc Holiday Fair: December 4th 2009

- a) Vendors: Have 6 reserved vendor tables and a couple more interested people who haven't yet sent me proof that their crafts are good
- b) Music: Sent call-out for musicians on listserv and have a guitarist who's willing to play for an hour. Soulstice would like to perform for half an hour and others pending from Yellow Door and MUSA through Emil Briones
- c) Activities – waiting on Fine Arts Council to get back to us...Laura D'Angelo says they'd be interested
- d) Security? Should we get SSMU security to be present? Are there any liability issues?
- e) Car rental – speak to Wallace?
- f) Café Supreme Food and Beverages – will work out final order today or tomorrow
- g) Promotion: Bilingual posters should be ready today; set up fbook event with good response; will send out listserv announcement to all faculties and add to our listserv; open page on SSMU website with Poster and linked to front page; Have already started distributing announcements through community channels; sent info to papers for community events column

6. Café Conversations

- a) Closing in on date and time: January 18th at 7pm at Presse Café. Anurag tells us he's hooked a speaker for the event too.
- b) To promote these events, I sent a call-out on the listserv with description of event for students to submit their artwork

7. BYB

- a) Had meeting with SEDE office on Friday. Two events and dates confirmed (Sufi Centre and Kahnawake), and Alfie Roberts Institute is interested – we just need to find a date.
- b) Rewind to summer: All that we're looking for is a tour of the Gay Village. I've sent email to Pervercite and no response. We've contacted a number of people through QPIRG and no luck.



Other

8. Transit survey

- a) Released on Monday on our website and sent out on listserv. Dallas says there has been response in the hundreds already from undergrads.
- b) Go do the 2 minute survey <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/university-external-representation/current-research/transit-survey/>

9. External affairs Committee meetings

- a) November 16th: More or less finished reviewing the TaCEQ by-laws and had presentation on Federal postsecondary education policy.
- b) November 23rd: Completed review of TaCEQ by-laws. Will be sitting down with Chair David Lipsitz to come up with Omnibus by-law amendment proposal for GA on December 5th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan, VP (External) SSMU